

A Newspaper Devoted to the Welfare of All Workers by Hand or Brain

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# The Canadian Railroader Weekly

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## That Tariff Commission

FROM all the reports which are appearing in the newspapers of November 26th., it is very evident that the government is going to move in the matter of adjusting Canadian Tariffs. The whole question now is whether the clumsy unscientific unsatisfactory methods of a general tariff revision, upon old lines, is going to be followed, or whether we have advanced sufficiently with the spirit of the time to find scientific ways of making revisions which will enable the Dominion and its manufacturers and its workmen to progress steadily, free from the disturbing influences of political tariff battles.

The workmen of Canada do not intend to be the victims of political jugglery on this issue. At every election when the tariff is the issue, factories close down, unemployment and suffering become general, debts pile up for the working classes, and in many instances we are thoroughly aware that it is all staged for our special benefit for the purpose of influencing our votes.

In next week's issue we shall give you many reasons why we are opposed to the old methods.

Our readers are aware that on April 5th., we reviewed the tariff question and urged the appointment of a permanent tariff board to advise with the government and to assist in tariff adjustments, and we strongly urge that a labor representative should be appointed on that commission.

The material welfare of the workingman in Canada is very much involved, and therefore

we expect that one of our members will be placed upon the board to safeguard the interests of the workers of this Dominion.

We find upon enquiries that our campaign begun in April for a scientific and modern plan for conducting tariff matters has been taken up by many labor unions throughout the Dominion of Canada. Hundreds of resolutions have apparently been passed supporting this idea. Unfortunately we have only a partial list at this time. In the near future our information will be more complete, and we will probably be able to supply more data. The list which is appended hereto is sufficient to demonstrate that the labor movement is alive to

the importance of the situation.

It is a source of great satisfaction to the Canadian Railroader that the idea of a tariff board, which received its first inspiration and advocacy in this office, last April, has borne such wonderful fruits. It certainly is a great tribute to the wakefulness and intelligence of the working class of Canada that they have so heartily and universally endorsed and supported the idea of a tariff board.

From information which we have, the following organizations have debated the question of a tariff board and pronounced in its favor:—

### Trades and Labor Councils

Nelson Trades and Labor Council.  
Peterboro Trades and Labor Council.  
Kingston Trades and Labor Council.

Prince Albert (Sask.) Trades and Labor Council.

Lethbridge Trades and Labor Council.

Niagara Falls Trades and Labor Council.

Hamilton Trades and Labor Council.

St. Thomas Trades and Labor Council.

Trenton Trades and Labor Council.

Brantford Trades and Labor Council.

Allied Trades and Labor Council (Ottawa).

Central Labor Council (Sarnia).

St. John Trades and Labor Council.

Pictou County, Trades and Labor Council.

Sydney Trades and Labor Council.

Windsor and Essex County Trades and Labor Council.

London Trades and Labor Council.

Fredericton Trades and Labor Council.

Montreal Trades and Labor Council.

Bro. of Locomotive Engineers, No. 188, Stratford.

Amal. Society of Engineers No. 1186, Stratford.

Boiler Makers & Iron Ship Builders No. 297, Stratford.

Inter. Bro. of Blacksmiths & Helpers No. 92, Stratford.

Canadian Bro. of Ry. Employees No. 37, North Bay.

Bro. of Railway Carmen Ass'n. No. 131, North Bay.

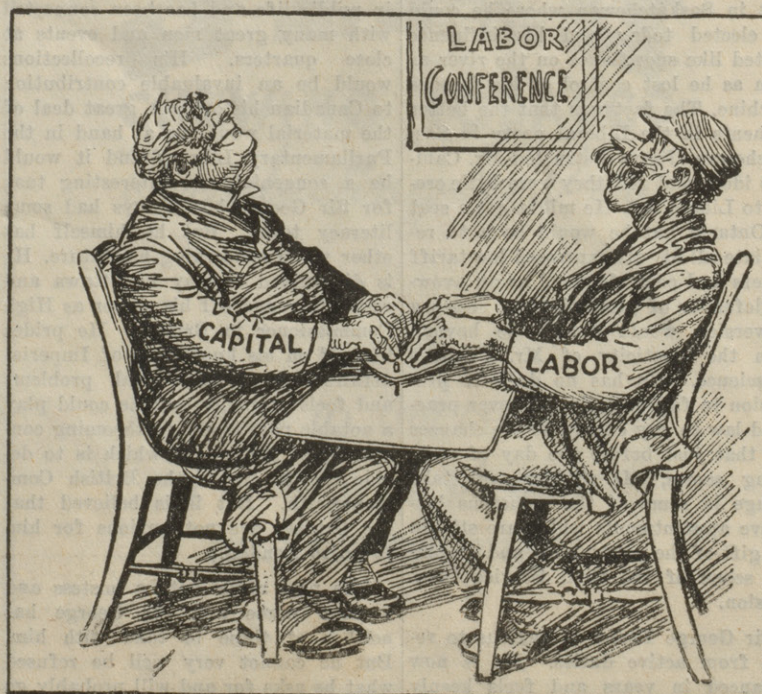
Railroad Pipe Fitters No. 361, North Bay.

Railway Carmen Employees No. 192, North Bay.

Order of Ry. Conductors No. 242, North Bay.

Bro. of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders & Helpers of America No. 447, North Bay.

United Bro. of Carpenters &



"NOW THEN, GOOD SPIRITS, A MESSAGE, PLEASE."

—Newark News.

(Continued on page 12).



## Our OTTAWA LETTER

THE dullness of the session which has just closed has been succeeded by complete political stagnation at the capital. Comparatively few ministers remain at their posts but there have been frequent pilgrimages by members of the Cabinet southwards where apparently they meet the convalescent Premier in New York or Atlantic City and hold high converse over affairs of state. Mr. Meighen and Dr. Reid have been there and Mr. Calder, while nominally on pleasure bent, will no doubt foregather with his illustrious chieftain and communicate the latest additions to the profound knowledge of the darker mazes of Canadian public life, which has always been his chief political asset.

There now exists a David and Jonathan brand of affection between Messrs. Calder and Meighen, which is highly touching and almost diverting. Time was and that not many weeks before the formation of the Union Government when Mr. Calder regarded and spoke of Mr. Meighen in the same terms as Mr. Charles Murphy regards and speaks of Mr. Rowell and Mr. Meighen regarded Mr. Calder as the incarnation of political villany. Now they constitute a sort of mutual admiration society and apparently repose unbounded trust in one another's political sagacity and loyalty. This plant of affection and trust has been of slow growth; for weeks and months after his entrance to the Unionist fold Mr. Calder was not trusted by his Tory colleagues; they knew the strange history in the entrance of the Cabinet which will some day be told in full and watched their prisoner with sedulous care.

They knew he had lines of communication with the enemy camp and feared he was a spy in their midst. But as time went on and untoward events like the death of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the resignation of Mr. Crerar occurred, Mr. Meighen and Mr. Calder realized that they were bed-fellows in political misfortune for

the time being and that they must hang together or hang separately. Such is the genesis of a strange political friendship, which is now one of the chief buttresses of Unionism.

Mr. Meighen is much the superior character of the two. He has an attractive appearance though a very unattractive voice and there is a flavor of mental cultivation and intellectuality about his speeches and methods of conducting business in the House which is in striking contrast to the brutish and plebeian tone of Mr. Calder's utterances. Mr. Meighen added to his parliamentary reputation last session by his able and efficient handling of the Grand Trunk Bill and is now indispensable to his party. It is more doubtful if he could ever successfully lead a party.

There is an unyielding hardness about his mind which will make political life very difficult for him in the coming years. Nor has he the art of suffering fools gladly which is almost indispensable to the successful management of a party at Ottawa. A member wishes to bring a deputation to see Mr. Meighen about some urgent need of their community but Mr. Meighen is very busy with the Grand Trunk and other important matters and besides he knows all about the urgent need and knows it cannot be looked after by the government.

Thereat an angry M.P. and a body of contemptuous supporters who assert that the M.P. is no good and Mr. Meighen is a heartless bureaucrat.

Where Mr. Meighen will be exceedingly useful to the country will be as the critical and watchful leader of some sort of conservative opposition four years hence. Mr. Calder on the other hand must realize that his political days are numbered. There is no seat in Saskatchewan where he could be elected today and his influence melted like snowflakes on the river as soon as he lost control of his famous machine. The fact was that the better elements in the Liberal party in Saskatchewan always distrusted Mr. Calder's ideas and felt they were little credit to Liberalism. He might get a seat in Ontario but he would have to repudiate all his oft-expressed low tariff beliefs and come forward as an avowed defender of protectionism. Such a conversion would almost be beyond even the elasticity of Mr. Calder's conscience. He has no definite profession to fall back for he never practiced law to any extent, so the chances are that just before the day of reckoning comes, Mr. Calder will take refuge in some of the numerous lucrative appointments which are still in the gift of the government and beyond the scope of the Civil Service Commission.

Sir George Foster is anxious to retire from active duties. He is now advanced in years and feels keenly the loss of his wife. In the house he has lost all his bitterness and is some-

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times almost playful; he has aired on several occasions the knowledge of French which he acquired during the Peace Conference. Obviously his long services give him first claim to any position in the gift of the Government. What he should do is to take the post of Parliamentary librarian which is due to become vacant in the near future and write his reminiscences. He has been almost forty years in public life and has been connected with many great men and events at close quarters. His recollections would be an invaluable contribution to Canadian history. A great deal of the material would be at hand in the Parliamentary Library and it would be a congenial and interesting task for Sir George has always had some literacy tests. But he himself has other views concerning his future. He is disinclined to stay in Ottawa and wants to round off his career as High Commissioner in Britain. He prides himself on his knowledge of Imperial affairs and international problems and feels probably that he could play a notable part in the forthcoming constitutional conference which is to decide the future of the British Commonwealth. But it is believed that the Cabinet are not anxious for him to go to London.

The post needs both a hostess and a deep purse and Sir George has neither of these to take with him. But he cannot very well be refused what he asks for and will probably go there at a convenient season. There will be then the problem of finding a

successor for him and of electing him.

Mr. Lloyd Harris would under ordinary circumstances be the Premier's choice but there is the difficulty of finding a seat and it will probably end in Mr. A. K. Maclean being given the portfolio. He has ceased of recent weeks to talk of resigning which he did freely and continuously before. Sir Edward Kemp and Mr. Doherty are now in the sere and yellow of political life and both are understood to be willing and anxious to retire at an early date.

But there is the awful problem of finding successors for them once again. The fact is that the Unionist benches are singularly devoid of Cabinet timber. Mr. Nickle was the best available man but he has now gone, possibly for ever. Mr. Hume Cronyn of London, Ontario, is a most presentable figure and capable business man but he would be best suited for the Finance Department and another occupant has been found. Mr. H. H. Stevens is supposed to be slated for the next position but he is at the best very much of a second rater, lacking both in personal prestige and intellectual equipment. The session has developed not a sign of new talent on the Unionist benches. Mr. Nicholson of Algoma and Mr. R. L. Richardson are still their foremost orators. The former knows everything about every possible subject and the latter is a middle aged politician bearing close resemblance to a certain type of middle-aged maiden lady who is very fond of recounting assaults

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upon her virtue which she has successfully repulsed.

The cross benches have scarcely played the part which was expected of them. Mr. Crerar was unable owing to pressure of business claims to be continuously in the house and as Dr. Clark was often absent, the independent group were often like sheep without a shepherd. Mr. Davis of Neepawa spoke well on several occasions and is one of the most studious and thoughtful men in the House. Mr. Campbell took a very sound and independent line on more than one question but the others for the most part preserved a dignified silence. On the rare occasions when Mr. Crerar intervened in debates, he was listened to with great respect and his transparent sincerity is much more effective than the well rounded evasions of Mr. Rowell. He made a really excellent speech upon the Grand Trunk Bill, which laid down the true principles of public ownership.

Two of the new farmer members, Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Caldwell took their seats ere the house prorogued but neither ventured to speak. One of the shrewdest observers in the gallery wrote that he was certain that "neither of them would lower the mental average of the House".

Just after the August Convention there seemed to be some hope for the Liberal opposition; they had had a sort of house cleaning, the party cleavage over conscription had been more or less healed, a new programme had been drafted and a new leader chosen. But it can hardly be said that their position has been improved this session. First of all they allowed Mr. Fielding and Mr. Mackenzie during the Treaty debate to lead them into the position of endorsing an old colonialism which only lingers in the recesses of Nova Scotia.

It gave a most unfortunate impression of the Liberal point of view upon the matter, which is quite sound and is one of the subjects on which the party have displayed the greatest consistency, in the last decade. Mr. Fielding is still in a marked way the best parliamentarian in the house. There is a crispness and clearness in his speeches which is very effective and the Government always pay great attention to whatever he says. He put up the best fight over the Grand Trunk bill and had Mr. Meighen in a corner more than once. But he is obviously old and tired and incapable of the burden of continuous hard work and long speechmaking tours. Mr. Mackenzie is by way of being a political antique or curiosity. No man prides himself with such persistent publicity on his Liberalism and no man provides such consistent and convincing evidence that he is at heart a Tory.

Probably if he had lived at the time of the reformation in the sixteenth century he would have given it a modest approval but he would certainly have been very critical of Oliver Cromwell. His friends like him but he has done in his short nine months of leadership untold harm to the Liberal party. He has a certain gift if humorous sarcasm and skill in biblical quotations and allegories which do

something to redeem his speeches from monotony. There was few better things said last session than his application of the fable of the fox and the goat to Mr. Carvell and Sir H. Drayton.

But Mr. Mackenzie belongs to a by-gone age and there is something pathetic in his wonderment at the new political portents which he sees rising on every side. He is so convinced of the inherent wickedness of the Union Government that he is amazed that all its critics and foes do not flock to the banners of the Liberal opposition, in which in his view repose all the noblest political traditions. Mr. King, to say the least of it, was unfortunately in the circumstances of his reappearance in parliament. When he was elected by acclamation, prorogation was supposed to be imminent and he did not expect to do more than take his formal seat. But the Grand Trunk controversy developed and Mr. King feeling that a leader must lead plunged gaily into it. He was obviously unprepared to deal with the intricate complications of this very difficult problem and was at a hopeless disadvantage compared with his chief antagonist Mr. Meighen whom long acquaintance with the transaction had made thoroughly conversant with every detail of the bill.

The result was that Mr. Meighen was Mr. King's master in every verbal encounter which took place and needless to say he took the fullest advantage of his position to place the opposition leader in an unfavorable

light. Mr. King would have been well advised to have taken no part in the Grand Trunk debate on the ground that he was not familiar with the controversy as his performances in it were a very inauspicious opening for his career as leader. He was also very clumsy in his handling of the tactical situation in connection with the debate on the soldiers' civil re-establishment problem. Of course it is unfair to judge a political leader who has been out of active political warfare for eight years by his conduct during a brief period of three weeks in the House, and time may show that Mr. King merely got off to a bad start from which he can recover. There is one thing in his favor that on international matters and wider affairs of state he is after Sir Robert Borden who has enjoyed immense experience and opportunities of late years, he is much the best informed public man in Canada and that fact is in itself an enormous asset in which of the part which Canada will henceforth be expected to play in the affairs of the universe.

His intellectual equipment is good but other qualities are needed for success in political leadership. A great deal will depend upon his ability to emancipate himself from the influence of numerous reactionary counsellors who still frequent the higher ranks of the Liberal party and gather around him a body of forward-looking younger men. His chief lieutenant in Saskatchewan is the sort of political friend he should pray to be delivered



from; by his foolish plunge into the Assiniboia, he made trouble for Mr. King in Saskatchewan with the provincial Liberal government and it is hard to imagine how the nomination of Mr. Albert Champagne, ex-M.P. in North Battleford, accomplished also at Mr. Motherwell's instigation is going to improve the situation.

Of the rest of the Liberal party, Mr. Lapointe is almost in a class by himself. He took a wise and courageous step in resigning from Kamouraska to fight Quebec East and his easy victory there leaves himself in almost undisputed possession of the leadership of French-Canadian Liberalism. There could be no more fortunate event either for Quebec or Canada. Mr. Lapointe is young, he is able, fearless and public spirited; he is a student and a thinker and has a thoroughly modern and progressive mind. He has had fourteen years experience of the House at the age of 43 and his political career is only beginning. Mr. Lemieux will probably retire from politics to take some educational post and as Dr. Beland is a modest retiring man who doesn't desire the leadership, Mr. Lapointe has almost an undisputed field. Mr. A. R. McMaster and Mr. Lucien Cannon make good speeches at intervals. Mr. A. R. Trahan of Nicolet is one of the most learned and best informed members in the House and his speeches are always worth listening. Mr. Cahill is improving every month in Parliamentary capacity and is now a very useful critic of the government's misdeeds. Mr. S. W. Jacobs has one of the ablest minds in his party but has too great a sense of humour to indulge in the ferocious partisanship which in the present state of affairs is necessary for success at Ottawa. But it makes him a veritable oasis of wit in a desert of dullness.

Peace will probably be officially declared with Germany, Austria and Bulgaria on December 1st, but we shall still be at war with Turkey and the special wartime legislation will not automatically lapse. It will likely be removed in gradual stages. It is now announced that the United States have removed the embargo on Canadian wheat and wheat products which will help the outward movement of the western crop. There are complaints that it has been unnecessarily slow this year. The situation in regard to bituminous coal has become very serious and Mr. Magrath, the Controller, is enforcing strict conservation. Sir Robert Borden will probably be back in Ottawa at the end of the month to welcome Lord Jellicoe who is coming to tell us how to spend our surplus dollars in naval armaments.

J. A. S.

# STAG

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# ULTIMATE AIM, FORSOOTH !

(By George Pierce.)

One balmy day I was sitting in my office, gazing out of the window over the busy city. I was at peace with the world. There wasn't a ruffle on life's waters. The birds were singing in the trees, and the sky was full of the indefinite blue of a beautiful summer day.

And then, it came — unheralded and unsung — a letter. It was couched in such polite terms, it was so mannerly. Would I address the members of the St. James Literary Society. I was described as something of an authority on the labor movement. "The members of the Society would be interested to hear your views as to labor and its aims. We all look forward with the most pleasant anticipations to your address," wrote Mr. D. A. Whitaker, the honorary secretary.

I was not flattered, nor was I exhilarated with the proposal. But the birds were singing, as I have said, and the day was so very tranquil and the letter was so very polite. I formed such an affection for the gentility of its politeness — and so it happened — influenced by my environment and the compelling suavity of this letter, that I committed myself to come out of my customary retirement and step boldly upon the public rostrum.

The days flittered away with the reckless abandon, and the profligate haste, the spirit of summer, I began thinking of my subject and of my appearance in the arena.

A man about town, who knows a good deal about clubs and societies in the city, happened into the office one day. I began to question him cautiously, as I had no desire to acquaint him with the facts. "How about the St. James Literary Society?" said I. "How do you estimate its membership?" "Well," he drawled, "it is an organization of students, middle-aged most of them, and extremely reactionary. It is a very critical society of gentlemen." I am not sure whether I showed a tremor or not, but I am very positive that I experienced trepidation of a most pronounced character.

"Very reactionary."

"And extremely critical!"

I bore this in mind when I began the preparation of my paper. I adhered strictly to facts. When I began the writing I sensed safety in facts and I discerned danger in theories. Yes, facts were quite satisfactory.

Well, the fateful day arrived.

I began my oration by picturing the frightful conditions that existed during the period when the business of manufacture was allowed to run wild. I described little children five years of age working as pin makers. I proved by unimpeachable authority that children were chained at the hips, that they dragged heavy iron balls and went to sleep in them. I cited a case exposed during the parliamentary debates where the little children were put up amongst the effects of

a bankrupt institution and disposed of as one of the assets. I went so far as to elaborate the details of a case where a contract specified that if twenty children of sound mind and body were secured the employer would accept one imbecile. I pointed out among other things that at the very time when the white industrial victim was made to labor fifteen hours, and even eighteen hours, a day, that colonial slaves were protected by a law which limited employment to nine hours per day.

After I had concluded picturing conditions as they were in the dawn of industrial history, I enumerated and described all the labor laws which had terminated such conditions or ameliorated them. The intention was to prove the beneficent influence of the operation of the trades union movement.

Then followed a detailed account of all modern laws governing industry, after which the views of intelligent thinkers as to the future development and evolution of both capital and labor groups were given.

Then I ventured to give my own opinion as to the settlement of present difficulties. I stated bluntly that neither one could dispense of the other, I asserted that in the progress of manufacture the goodwill of the managerial class, coupled with its brain and experience, was just as essential as the goodwill of the working class. In the business of producing to shelter, feed and clothe the masses a miserable failure would result if only the mechanical ingenuity

of the working class was secured. To manufacture successfully the goodwill of all classes was of paramount importance. Finally, understanding of each other's difficulties was advocated, and education for all of us in all industrial performances was strongly urged.

I sat down amid the pleasant music of vociferous applause. These were golden, and very rare, moments. I feared that I had shocked my audience, this conservative, reactionary and critical audience, by a cold recitation of brutal facts, but the applause reassured me.

Then with tender words, sweetened with the tact of the educated and experienced debater, a resolution of thanks was moved. I settled down in my chair with a feeling of relief. A warm glow touched me with its kindness, and the room took on a roseate, a soothing hue.

A second was given the floor, and indulged in a very flattering picturization which tingled me with new delight, and slipped me further down into my seat. I almost heard those birds singing as on that balmy summer day when the very polite letter arrived.

And then — something happened.

With indescribable swiftness it happened.

A hand shot into the air, and the president nodded approval. Then a wiry, virile body jumped to its feet. I felt the menace in the swiftness and the vitality of the movement. Mr. Gordon had the floor. At the outset he sent a flare bomb into the air that lit up all the intellectual nooks in that room, and blazed the place into fiery barrage. A real radical intellectual was speaking.

The words flowed from his lips as rain from the clouds in summer. He regretted that he had but five minutes

for criticism. That he intended to use the fleeting moments to the best advantage was evident from the rapid-fire delivery which he adopted.

The lecture was very disappointing, said he. The history of labor was known to all. It was merely a reiteration of what everyone already knew. There was absolutely nothing to be gained intellectually, or practically, from what the speaker had said. I had utterly failed to express what labor was aiming at. Altogether the evening was regrettable and wasted. He insisted, he would insist, that labor must have an "ultimate". Had not the labor party declared this, enunciated that, and demanded the other? Had not Mr. Henderson and Mr. Russell, and numerous other authors, made known to the entire world what were the aims of the labor party. Voicing his regrets dolorously he subsided into his seat, as suddenly as he had come.

A sickening sadness set upon my surly soul.

Mr. Knight, secretary of the Fabian Society, followed. He endorsed the opinion of Mr. Gordon, and he was greatly concerned in the ultimate aims of the labor party as well. He demanded to know if labor proposed, as in the past, to concern itself with dealing with trifles, of solving the little incipient problems? Why were they not engaged in dealing with the fundamentals? What about the ultimate? What was the new social order of the labor party? What was their ultimate? What about the ultimate?

I had hazy recollections, while the debate was at its height, of having been the very first one to publish the new social order of the British labor party in the Dominion of Canada. I remembered sending to Mr. Arthur Henderson for direct information.



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I had in mind the laborious study which I made of the numerous pamphlets, political and economic, which Mr. Henderson was kind enough to send to me. In my mind I recalled many conversations which I personally had held with prominent members of the labor party of Great Britain.

At this juncture, however, a gentleman, whose name I cannot recall, took the floor. He filled the air with flying roses, and so I set aside the bitter caustic things with which I was preparing to answer my critics.

Thereafter in rapid succession other speakers arose, who evidently were also interested in the ultimate of the labor party.

Then came Mr. R. Stanley Weir, ex-Recorder of Montreal. The human touch of his criticism was intensely interesting to me. It was just what I would expect from a high-minded jurist whose sphere in life had removed him far from the din, and the grating noises, and the whirl, the soot, the killing dust, of modern industry. He spoke of the need for increased production. He viewed with alarm the tendency to shorten hours, and he assured us with rare beauty of language that efforts should be made to make the work of the toiler so interesting, so agreeable, and so pleasant, that men would be willing to work for the love of labor. His idea was very pretty. It was a noble thought and nobly put, but my mind reverted again to the clash of steel, the humming belts, the poisoned fumes, the speed, the hurry, the bustle of the factory, and inwardly I groaned.

Then came a series of sensible questions which were easily answered. Why did labor oppose philanthropic, charitable and first-aid reforms by the managerial staffs? What was the attitude of labor towards the revolution in Russia, and so on.

At this juncture I was greatly pleased to see Mr. Francis Hankin take the floor. He is a prolific student of labor matters, and his insight into the evolutionary movement of the masses is clear and sharp. He has been a prodigious reader of all literature on the subject, and recently delivered a very valuable set of lectures at McGill University. I was therefore more than astonished when he began to speak fluently of the labor party, and its aims, object and ultimate. He defined the co-operative group and its methods, the direct action group and its activities, the communist group and the old-line labor group. When Mr. Hankin fell into the error of discussing the affairs of the political labor party of Great Britain, when the subject of the evening was the international trades union movement, and what it was aiming to do or accomplish, I determined to make the differentiation strikingly clear in no uncertain terms, but I was relieved of this unpleasant obligation by the Past President of the Society, Dean Moyse of McGill University.

His remarks were to the point and characteristic of his cultured and discriminating judgment. In kindly terms, and with admirable logic, he

dissected my paper and gave better reasons for its structure than I was fit to give. The sound sense and the practical wisdom of his remarks will ever remain a memory with me.

When the moment came for me to reply I explained that I had spoken as a member of the international trades union movement, not as a member of a political movement in Great Britain, known as the Labor Party in Great Britain. The economic movement in England is known as the Trades Union Congress. The economic movement had no ultimate. It concerns itself with the adjustment of wages, hours and working conditions from day to day, just as the environment changes. Had I been asked to define the ultimate of the Labor Party of Great Britain I could have done so in a very few words, such as these. The Labor Party of Great Britain desires the earth, all that is in it and upon it, with the northern lights thrown in for embellishment.

And now a final word to the intellectual radicals of the St. James Literary Society. Permit me to say that from the beginning I have acquainted myself with every piece of literature the labor party has ever issued. Many private views from prominent intellectuals in the party have also come to hand.

I cannot here discuss its attitude on many important questions, but I shall give fleeting attention to the question of direct action. You intellectuals must know that the intellectual radical wing of the labor party succeeded in raising the issue of direct action in a recent trades congress. The principle of direct action was defeated by 225,000 votes of the old-line trades unionist. You all know the disastrous effect of the economic strike — the weapon used by labor when conciliation and arbitration has

failed. You realize, of course, that there are some 1,500 strikes of this nature, economic strikes, rampant in the Western Hemisphere at this time. You are aware of the terrible loss, of the suffering, caused by these industrial disturbances. Have you ever stopped to reflect on the terrible consequences that would follow if the strike weapon became a political weapon? Suppose that a small group of the population, and the labor party with its millions of members is only a fraction of the British population, now suppose that this organized minority by the use of the political strike weapon should coerce the elective majority into whatever measure the minority saw fit to enforce what kind of democracy would that be?

Please remember that I made it clear in my paper that the international trades union movement by its economic strength and the use of constitutional methods has caused the enactment of laws which have struck the shackles of serfdom and slavery from the limbs of uncounted millions. Do not forget that this movement is many years old, tried and proven, a practical constitutional movement. Contrast this with the fact that the labor party is a young movement advancing the most radical ideas, untried and unproven, climaxed with this doctrine of direct action, and the political strike. Examine the possibilities of this terrible weapon and then you will understand why old-line trades unionists are very conservative in their attitude towards the labor party, and the intellectual radicals in particular. The intellectual radical is calling to the laborite from tremendous heights in a strange language and in a foreign tune. The world is much better for the fact that a great movement came into existence. Will it be the better, or the worse, for the coming of the labor party? You do

not know, and neither do I. Time alone will tell.

In closing the incident may I thank the St. James Literary Society, and all of its members for a most enjoyable evening?

G. P.

**WAR AND THE CREATIVE IMPULSE**, by Max Plowman, with Preface by Henry W. Neinson.—Headley Brothers, 72 Oxford Street, London; 2 Shillings Net.

"War and the Creative Impulse" is an interesting study of the action and reaction of a war upon a young Englishman who spent a number of years at the front. He has rather advanced ideas on the part which the Sovereign State should play. He says: "The Sovereign State is an example of the divorce of an organism from that which gives it life. It postulates the complete authority of a power (which is itself a song of human energy) over those who themselves provide the power. But the Sovereign State is only a gross exhibition of all forms of society which pretend to have attained independent existence. People who talk about duty to society, responsibility to society, and of the necessity that the individual should accommodate himself to the requirements of society, have constructed an independent entity out of man's goodwill and social sense. They have made of their own conventional ideas of what is right and proper to themselves a Sovereign State which can make laws and issue decrees to bind the very powers by which society subsists. They have brought into being an unhuman entity which they endow with the powers of human governance. They have turned subjective power into an objective idol, and naturally enough, for their worship. In a word they have deified environment. Properly understood, society is nothing more than the sum of human entities. They compose it. For them it exists. Apart from them it has no value at all. Obviously it cannot have a purpose other than that which you and I give to it, and therefore to talk of the dictates of society is to speak as if our common agreement of difference of itself set up an authority which had the power to bind us both. My duty to society is summed up in my duty to my neighbor. My responsibility to society is my responsibility to him, and to be of natural human assistance to him is to fulfill the requirements of society."

There is a particularly interesting chapter—"The Failure of Scientific Organization."

"And whether Earth's great offspring, by decree,  
Must rot if they abjure rapacity,  
Not argument but effort shall decide."

George Meredith  
(Sonnet to John Morley).

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## OUR SCOTTISH LETTER

Glasgow, November, 5.

THE cry for better working conditions is becoming more insistent every day. There are rumors of drastic action among the bank clerks, and the dreaded word "strike" is even used. Thousands of bank clerks will, it is stated, if their demands are not immediately granted, come out. They have formed themselves into a Bank Officers' Guild, and as such are trade unionists. The English clerks are much worried over the prospect of girl clerks, who it would appear are continuing on the permanent staffs.

Such a step, so contrary to bank traditions, has aroused bitter controversy. Fortunately, there is no immediate danger, in Scotland, at least, that the teller will precipitately forsake a customer's money and leave it uncounted on the counter. Nor will the ledger clerk lay down his pen hurriedly to join in a demonstration outside the Bank premises. Wiser methods are now proceeding and members of the profession are hoping that by negotiation they will ultimately achieve the objects they have in view. From information I was able to gather, it would appear that the employment of girls in banks does not—contrary to a general belief—constitute a grievance generally.

It is admitted that a number of former employees are not anxious to return to their old positions, and in such circumstances there is no reason why girls should not "carry on." However, a bank giving employment to girls should, in the opinion of the male staff, be called upon to define the position of those

clerkesses and also to limit the scope of their advancement.

This is considered to be the only fair proviso, as the majority of girls were taken on temporarily and their engagement was not to be in any sense a permanent one. In certain instances, it is stated, the returned service men who approach their former employers are treated with scant consideration. They are offered their old jobs at a very small salary that makes it impossible of acceptance. Such cases complicate the question of female clerks, who have become efficient and have no desire to leave the bank desk.

In regard to the wages question, certain employers have increased the pre-war figure by only 45 per cent., and this advance is regarded as totally inadequate in present circumstances. The opinion is emphatic, too, that a stand must now be made to concentrate attention on what is looked upon as a grievance of old standing, and one that amongst bank clerks has always been a cause of considerable discontent. Promotion of the staff is a grievance which at present is being very much discussed. The usual practice adopted is for employers to request their clerks to undergo training in various branches of banking and commercial procedure, etc.

A man may spend considerable time in acquiring additional knowledge of the business only to find that his requirements are not in any way used by the employer. In the meantime, bank clerks are seeing that their ranks are made strong by combination, and that like the journalists and the school teachers, strength to resist the employers regarding present conditions is the only way to bring about the much needed improvements.

### Small Holdings.

The idealist's dream of land settlement by small holdings is somewhat clouded by an economic report which has been prepared for the Board of Agriculture by Mr. H. M. Conacher and Professor Scott, of Glasgow. These gentlemen point out quite plainly that a small holder to be successful must necessarily be a man of unusual strength and high technical knowledge, that small holdings will cost anything from £700 to £1,100 to stock properly, and that in the end the average small farmer may have "a reasonable chance of bringing up a family in frugal comfort." It is not a hopeful report, and there is some agreement with the very cautious views advanced in it. This vision of land settlement has been held forth as the ideal solution of a considerable post-war problem, and we must realize, before embarking on any scheme, that it cannot be achieved unless at a very great expense and at very considerable risk.

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The Scottish bakers are balloting on an offer of the employers concerning the rates for "early" men. The Union asked for a flat rate of an extra payment of 6/- per week for all men who begin before the general starting hour. The present rate is two shillings all round. The employers offer an extra payment of 5/- to men starting at 4 a.m., and 2/6 to those starting at 5 a.m., or earlier than the general start at 6 a.m. This offer is apart from any increase which may be granted as the result of arbitration on the general wages question.

### Teachers' Grievance.

A mass meeting of non-graduate and graduate teachers in primary schools in the West of Scotland was held in Glasgow this week for the

purpose of discussing the non-graduate position as indicated in the national minimum scales. After a lengthy discussion Miss Macdonald proposed that the meeting decide to form a section for primary teachers within the Educational Institute. Mr. Taylor moved that there should be no new organization. As primary teachers, he argued, they held the majority in the institute, and, in consequence, should set themselves to mould the policy of the Institute. It was suggested that the Institute be asked to call a meeting of the primary teachers dissatisfied with the scales. In the end, Miss Macdonald's proposal was carried by a large majority, and a provisional committee was appointed to meet with the Institute.

### Coal and Co-operation.

The Glasgow coal merchants' demand for an increase of 1s. 8d. per ton has been turned down by the local Fuel Committee acting under the influence of the Co-operative Societies. The latter, who supply a large part of the retail trade in the city, stated in the most emphatic terms that present rates were quite profitable. An interesting admission by the merchants was that Co-operative Societies could sell coal at cheaper prices than merchants in private business.

### Police in Poorhouse.

lice pensioners for a 25 per cent. In support of the plea of the po-



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addition to their present pensions, a deputation from the Corporation of Glasgow waited upon the Secretary for Scotland at Edinburgh on Saturday. Bailie Irwin, who headed the deputation, stated that in Glasgow 301 men were affected. Only 59 of these had over £91 a year, and 242 had between £39 and £62 per annum. Two of the men were in the poorhouse, and two in a home in Rottenrow. Mr. Robert Munro, the secretary, said he was very much impressed by the figures. In February last the Treasury gave an unfavorable reply to the petition, but he would represent to his colleagues in the Government the views of the deputation.

#### Fewer Clyde Ships.

The October output of shipping from the Clyde yards is the poorest of any month this year, except in January, February, May, and July. There were launched 17 vessels of 37,430 tons, compared with 22 boats of a total tonnage of 69,233 in September, and 34 vessels of 85,774 tons in April. For the period of ten months, 223 vessels of 453,340 tons were turned out. The figures for the Clyde record year of 1913 over the same period, were 218 vessels of 559,824 tons, so that no hope can be held out of record figures for 1919. There is shown, however, a considerable advance over the statistics for the first ten months of 1914, when the output was 191 vessels of 401,870 tons.

#### Serious for the Clyde.

Scarcity of material, due to the bricklayers' strike in the Scottish steel trade, is beginning to affect the Clyde shipbuilding industry. Stocks in hand are becoming exhausted, as there is only a comparatively small amount of material reaching the shipyards, it may be necessary to close down several departments of the industry. One of the principals of a large Clyde firm states that there is just enough material trickling through to permit of men working at the more important parts of vessels under construction. "Probably by the end of next week we shall be forced to begin paying off sections of our hands."

Another important firm has been obliged to place orders for material with English concerns, because of the inability of the Scottish trade to furnish normal supplies. It was con-

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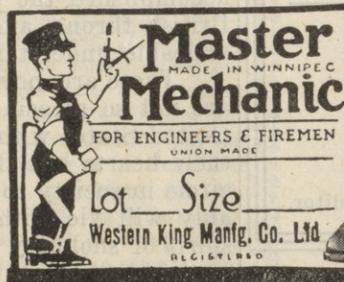
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PICTOU, N.-S.

tended by one shipyard official that the Government should intervene in the Scottish steel trade dispute. "The seriousness of the Bricklayers' strike", he said, "seems to be greatly underestimated. If a settlement is not reached soon it may mean a complete disorganization of the steel trade in Scotland."

The bricklayers' strike in the steel trade is now in its sixth week. The men are determined to hold out until the demand for a £5 weekly minimum is granted. The strike has brought the steel trade almost to a standstill, and many thousand workers are now idle.

It is alleged that the continuation of the strike for one more week will bring Clyde industry to a stop. For this the employers are to blame as they refuse to re-open the negotiations on the men's claim until work is resumed. This is akin to a demand for unconditional surrender, and the men are in no mood to accept this conclusion. The Minis-

try fo Labor may now intervene, in view of the failure of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation to arrange a settlement.

#### Abolishing Profiteering.

With a view to the complete elimination of profiteering in municipal service, the Glasgow Labor Party has proposed that a Works Department should be established to undertake all contracts in connection with the Town Council. If this idea was carried out it would mean that the workers would be employed under better conditions, and the ratepayers should be saved thousands of pounds.

#### Engineers' Wages.

The arbitration on the claim for a general advance of 45/- weekly in the engineering, shipbuilding, and kindred trades, was continued for several days. The Court dealt with the applications of the shipbuilding and associated unions, having al-

ready taken evidence from the engineering trades and the railway shopmen. It is anticipated that an advance will be granted. The ironfounders are no longer parties to the application, having withdrawn from the agreement, but if the award should be favorable to the men, there is a general belief that it will form a basis for re-opening negotiations which may lead to a settlement of the strike of the moulders, coremakers, and metal dressers.

#### New Foundry Move.

The magnificent struggle of the moulders in England and Ireland in support of the living wage principle has evoked a response in Scotland. The associated Ironmoulders of Scotland, following upon a delegate conference have agreed almost unanimously to take immediate action to support. A ballot is now being taken of the members with a view to their downing tools in support of the same wage demand as put forward by their comrades now on strike. That demand is for an advance of 15/- a week and the conversion of war wages into permanent wages. This request has already been refused by the employers and the men feel that drastic action is now necessary to enforce their reasonable proposal. Another reason which prompted the Executive to take a ballot is the difficulty experienced in stoppings patterns sent from the strike area to Scotland, which patterns are almost impossible to trace. It is also felt that, as all the bosses are organized to beat the moulders, so the moulders ought to organize to beat the bosses. The Scottish Moulders' Executive has been carefully considering the situation, and is now confident that the time for kind words is past. Mass meetings of the men will be held to discuss the position, and the ballot will probably show a mandate for a bold policy.

#### Printing Works Committees.

The Printing Trades Industrial Council has decided that there is no need to make provision for the reference of questions in dispute by Works Advisory Committees to the Joint District Committees, as the former are purely advisory in character. The setting up of a Works Committee is, however, strongly recommended by the Council.

James Gibson.

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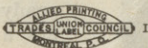
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## Another Autocracy

JUDGE Lafontaine, president of the Catholic School Board of Montreal, likens school teachers of the Board to Anarchists and Bolsheviks because they formed a Welfare Association and wanted to state a case regarding their conditions before the Board. He refused to receive them, and swung the vote of the Board in his favor. He said that he would put on his hat and leave the Board rather than speak to them. What a pity he did not carry out his threat! He would not speak to them because they had not been recognized by the Archbishop, but doubtless he would speak to a Protestant delegation from the Board of Trade, although it had not been recognized by the Archbishop. The report of the affair is given on another page.

If these teachers — there are more than 600 of them — are Anarchists and Bolsheviks because they formed an association so that they might have some control over the conditions under which they teach and live, what is Judge Lafontaine, exalted representative of law and church and community? What do you think?

His personal attitude alone is sufficient cause for the formation of organization of any persons who have the misfortune to come under his control.

Protestant school teachers are badly paid. Catholic school teachers are worse paid. Many of the educators of Catholic youth are on the edge of starvation, a fine outlook for the education of Catholic youth. The teachers seek to remedy their conditions. It is much to their credit that they wish to do so and have the courage to get together to present their case. Although it has not been so stated, so far as I know, I hope that they also seek to remove Judge Lafontaine from the presidency of the Catholic School Board.

If I were a school teacher, as I am a journalist, and any member of a school board attempted to dictate my destiny, and in these circumstances described me as he describes the teachers, I would never rest until I had seen him safely retired from the public arena. If I had not been an Anarchist and a Bolshevik before, but merely a seeker for control of my own

life, as these teachers are seekers, I might possibly become an Anarchist and a Bolshevik if I had such opposition to encounter. I would consider that I was espousing a holy cause of liberty and justice, to which, if need be, I would be willing to give my own life as the soldiers gave theirs on the fields of Flanders.

We talk much of the new age, of reconstruction, of a better life for all the people. It is all piffle and humbug as long as such a situation is tolerated as that presented by the attitude of the president of the Catholic School Board of Montreal.

K. C.

## The Snobbery Crop

THE Prince of Wales will be able to go back to Great Britain with the old triumphal cry—Veni, vidi, vici: but the most satisfactory part in that cry should lie in the second word, "I saw", for he has seen that which it would do good to any young man from the old countries of Europe to see. He has met a virile people, mostly of Anglo-Saxon tongue and traditions, but who have sought to throw off the chains of all thralldom while preserving the best instincts and permanent principles of those traditions, such as love for liberty, justice, and fair play for all. The heir of the throne has set eyes on a great land that throws the "tight little Isle" into the shade as regards material resources and breadth of acres. The visit has probably accomplished the purpose sought of cementing the ties to the British throne, and so long as those ties are of good-will and amicable understanding, all is well.

There are, however, one or two features about the visit that are not so pleasing. It appears that the young ladies of the United States with whom the Prince danced have lost not only their hearts but their heads, for they have established a new circle in society to be known as the Prince's Set, which presumably will vie with the First Four Hundred set. That same spirit of snobbery has also hit Canada; indeed, it has been one of the blots on all the arrangements made for his reception that there has been so much attempt at exclusiveness. The visit of the heir to the throne was to the people of Canada and not to the society belles and debutantes just out of their school classes. Therein lay the strength of his reception and the utility of the tour.

## MR. FRANK MORRISON SENDS MESSAGE TO READERS OF CANADIAN RAILROADER

MR. FRANK MORRISON, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, was in Montreal this week, in connection with the proposal to hold the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here next year. In one way and another the staff of the Canadian Railroader had much to do in relation to his visit, but the interesting point for publication at this moment is that Mr. Morrison sent a little personal message to readers of the Railroader.

He said that the alliance of the railroaders with the American Federation of Labor would be productive of the greatest benefits of the labor movement as a whole. Already two of the railroad brotherhoods are allied with the A. F. of L., the membership of which is now approximately four millions, a body in a position to command the very serious attention of all the people.

So far as the political activities of the A. F. of L. are concerned, he said, the present attention is being directed towards securing labor legislation which will be in harmony with the most progressive thought and experience of the labor movement. He said that the A. F. of L. proposes to carry on an intensive campaign to put labor representatives on the floor of the U. S. Congress.

In this connection he said: "We want men with union cards in their pockets sitting in every legislative assembly, watching our interests and fostering our ideas. I hope and believe that it will not be very long before there will be, at least, as many labor men as there are now lawyers sitting in the Congress of the United States and the Parliament of Canada. It is to that end we are working".



# PARTNERS IN INDUSTRY

## British Railroaders Want Representation on Boards Of Directors.

(Special Correspondence To Canadian Railroader.)

NEGOTIATIONS are at present proceeding between the National Union of Railwaymen and the British Government in regard to the future control of the railways. A bold forward movement has been made by the men, and the leaders have now submitted a new claim asking that railwaymen have a seat on the board of directors. This has aroused considerable interest all over the country, and future developments are being eagerly watched, not only by the railwaymen, and the general public, but by all trade unionists, as it is felt that the results may have far-reaching effects.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., the general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, in the course of an interview, said they were trying to establish what should be the standard conditions, no matter what the cost of living might be, and they were also dealing with the old question of standardization. They had boldly submitted to the Government a proposal—they might call it revolutionary if they liked—setting out that it was useless to ask the working classes to introduce a new spirit unless it were frankly and fully recognized that they had to be partners in industry.

They were saying to the railway companies, through the Government, that they insisted that there should be some machinery in operation to permit the redress of the grievances of every grade, and to permit an equal number of the men's side and an equal number of the companies' side, to thrash out these questions.

"Over and above that," said Mr. Thomas, "we want to be railway directors, and, incidentally, we are going to be railway directors. We believe that just as Labor can contribute by its brains and experience to the solution of some of the employers' problems, so the employer has difficulties which the workers ought to know. Neither side can know the other's difficulties unless they are in contact. It is on these lines, and in that direction, that we are at this moment discussing the position with his Majesty's Government."

Referring to the reported intention of the Government to introduce a Bill to take away from the workers the power to strike, Mr. Thomas refused to believe that the Government would be so foolish. At the same time if any machinery could be set up to improve the relationships between the employer and the employed to deal with grievances and give a fair crack of the whip to the workers, no one would be more ready to welcome it than he.

Mr. Cramp, the president of the National Union of Railwaymen, said that if the 51/- minimum was to be whittled down by sharp practices, the railwaymen would strike as solidly as on the last occasion. He announced that since the strike there had been negotiations with the Premier. All old figures had been upset and proposals for nationalization put forward. The terms given to the police should be the precedent for the wages settlement of the railwaymen. Trade unionists had a strong suspicion that secret service agents were being employed to discredit trade union representatives and others obnoxious to the Government.

In regard to the proposal that the railwaymen should be included on the committee of management, a circular has been sent to all members of Parliament by the Scottish Railway Stockholders' Association asking their support in the House for the representation also of the stockholders on the committee.

"We have already brought before you," says the circular, "that the objects of this Association are simply and solely to secure fair play for railway stockholders, and that stockholders are viewing with considerable anxiety their future owing to the uncertainty as to the Government's policy in regard to the permanent future of the railways. We would again remind you: (1) that as a class stockholders are not people of means. The great majority of them are small investors with a holding not exceeding £500 nominal capital. Many of them have invested their life savings in the railways. (2) there are estimated to be about 800,000 direct holders of British railway stocks, but it is estimated that through trusts, friendly societies, trade unions, and the like, the real beneficial owners of British railways number many millions. (3) The total capital of the railways in this country is estimated to be about 1,350 millions private capital provided by stockholders, to whom the country is indebted for its magnificent railway system, superior to that of any other country in the world."

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# New Education Itself To Be Life, Says Professor Dale

**Will Accept Individual Differences and Cultivate a  
Rich Diversity; Independent Thinking, Based  
Upon Sound Information, Will Be  
Encouraged in The Scholar.**

One of the best addresses looking to the future of educational movements that has yet been heard from any Canadian educationist, was that, delivered by Professor Dale of McGill University before the People's Forum in Montreal last Sunday afternoon, when his subject was "Education in the New World". Unfortunately much of the point, and the fine features of its presentation, are obscured in a condensed report such as is given below, though there is enough in this report to indicate the frame of the structure, and that in itself will be found interesting to those who had not the pleasure of hearing the complete address. A pamphlet giving the complete text would be a notable contribution to the progress of education in Canada, and the hope is here expressed that some effort will be made to obtain that reproduction.

"Teaching by contagion", spiritual education, was one of many aphorisms by Professor Dale, speaking before the People's Forum, last Sunday afternoon in Strathcona Hall, and is perhaps the best epitome of his theme, "Education in the New World".

By the "new world" the speaker meant no distant Utopia, but the state of society indicated by Graham Wallas in his book, "The Great Society," and to which he considered the world to be tending.

When that state of society is achieved, that is, when democracy is fully understood, then the whole scheme of education will be profoundly modified; and that state of society Professor Dale for the purpose of his address took for granted.

Industry will then no longer, as it largely does now, kill joy in work; and leisure will be the result of desert and desire, and not an accident. Leisure will be recognized as being an essential to all men as it is now recognized in respect to the clergy; and education will be concerned to foster the richest enjoyment of that leisure, the speaker rhetorically asking: "Aren't we capable of appreciating better art than we do?"

Life will no longer have the sense placed upon it in the phrase generally applied to the man who is making a business success, "getting on in life," but will be, in Wordsworth's words, "joy in widest commonality spread."

The work of the world will not be neglected, but every endeavor will be made to allow sufficient leisure to as many as possible of those whose bent is towards following the truth, whithersoever it may lead them, to make more tolerable the life of such men as John Davidson, the unfortunate poet.

The education for this rich life in the new world will, as has been said,

naturally be very different from the present system.

## The New Education

The new education will not, as does the old, teach all children alike, but will accept individual differences and will cultivate a rich diversity. In his early years the child will be given every opportunity of discovering his bent, and, when it is discovered, instead of being compelled to persist in studies for which he shows no aptitude, will be encouraged to cultivate the special abilities which he shows.

In the new education, the moral and the mental will not be divorced; and in this connection the speaker pointed out that words parroted for examination marks led to moral evasion in life, and undid any set instruction on morality that might be included in the curriculum. Subjects will not be taught for themselves, but in relation to a fuller appreciation of life — which the speaker illustrated by his own early experiences in learning Shakespeare.

Shakespeare, he said, was set for him really because of Shakespeare's beauty of language, interpretation of life, etc., but he and his school-fellows, discovering that the examination was upon the poet's grammar, and the etymology of the words of the play in question, put a rubber band around the text, and learned only the notes, with the result that the examination was passed, but the study of Shakespeare was not even commenced.

There will, therefore, be less attention to the curriculum itself, and more to what lies behind it. There will be a refinement of wants and instincts, and a proper development of the instinct of curiosity. Responsibility will be exercised rather than taught—thus the boy who in playing his games obeys the rules and participates in team-work actually lives the moral life. Education will not be a preparation for life, but

will be life itself. There will be no consternation at the thought of "putting ideas into people's heads", for that will be the whole object of the new education, and the boy who leaves the "new world" school will not be conscious of any breach between that which he has just left and that upon which he is just entering.

The new education will have to be compulsory so as to prevent any such exploitation of child labor as there has been in the past, but it will not be compulsory in the sense of any child being compelled, after his bent has been discovered, to toil at studies for which he shows no talent, and it is reasonable to suppose that a course of literature under the new regime is more likely to produce an author than are the present courses.

Thus in the "new world" as much attention will be given to the production of thought as of goods. Thinking, said the speaker, is a modern process in so far as the modern thinker does not mourn as a tragedy "hypothesis slain by inconvenient facts," but modifies his hypothesis to fit the facts, and there is still a widespread disposition towards habit in thought, so that many persons are "old fogies in their twenties," but in the "new world" education will encourage from a boy's earliest days that independent thinking, based upon sound information, which is now achieved only by the few, and the final test will be not the numbers who pass through the schools, but the number who arrive at early manhood with a definite outlook upon life.

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# MINOR STATESMEN

## No. 1 — Mr. G. B. NICHOLSON OF ALGOMA

In a series of sketches of the lesser personalities of the House of Commons which readers of the Canadian Railroader may be interested to peruse, it is fitting that a beginning should be made with a member who in his earlier days adorned the railway brotherhoods. Mr. G. B. Nicholson of Algoma had by various stages reached the honorable position of a railroad engineer when he was shrewd enough to transfer his energies and talents to the more profitable realm of commerce and by skilful operations as a lumber dealer and contractor for ties to amass a competence which would enable him to gratify his very obvious taste for public life ere old age descended.

There is no denying that Mr. Nicholson likes Parliament and the honors thereof; in fact his critics are inclined to say that like Paul he magnified his office. Elected for Algoma on the crest of the wave of war sentiment, which carried the Unionists to victory in 1917, Mr. Nicholson is a Unionist of the Unionists. What his political affiliations were before he embraced the Unionist cause, are not definitely known in Ottawa but it is almost a safe guess that he was a Conservative. He is accorded the special title of "Nicholson of Algoma" to distinguish him from the veteran Donald Nicholson who hails from what Mr. D. D. Mackenzie is wont to call "the chem of the culf." During his first session he was comparatively quiet; he was ultra loyal and demonstratively patriotic and showed signs of stern determination to be an orator. He also displayed signs of a greater intelligence and knowledge of public questions than fell to the lot of the average member of the gladsome gang of Unionists, whom circumstances had thrust into public life in 1917. But high policies and grave war problems were the order of the day for his first session; the Ministry monopolized the floor, private members had to suppress their ambitions and Mr. Nicholson had perforce to rest content with a few preliminary canterers.

But early in the session of 1919 he came into his own. Every Cabinet which knows its business maintains a special posse of select satellites who can be relied upon to do its bidding without fear of favor in the hope, of course, of subsequent promotion or reward. When the Government or a Minister, wishes a certain aspect of a case to be presented at some length, one of these acolytes is straightway put up.

If some member of the Opposition has to be assailed or a raid met one of these acolytes meets it. The chief qualifications for entrance to this household brigade are capacity to speak at length and blind

obedience to the powers that be. After Mr. Nicholson drawing skillfully from his practical knowledge of railway matters, had delivered a long and somewhat informative speech upon our railway tangle, Ministers reached the conclusion that he would be a useful recruit to their bodyguard and he was straightway enlisted.

It was the undoing of his Parliamentary career. Taking advantage of his new opportunities, he proceeded to indulge the House at inordinate length with his views and opinions on every possible subject, aimed at a reputation for omniscience, and the Cabinet encouraged him in the project. Was the tariff under discussion, Mr. Nicholson arose with all the air of an economic expert. There was nothing he did not know about public health and sanitation. As for the arts of diplomacy and canons of international law, he had forgotten more than Mr. Arthur Balfour ever knew. If the opposition had to be rebuked for ignorance, obstinacy or lack of patriotism, Mr. Nicholson was the man for the task and went at it with a will.

Now all this versatility requires intellectual, oratorical and Parliamentary gifts of a high order and these Mr. Nicholson unfortunately does not possess. There is a suspicion of patronizing arrogance in the knowing smile with which he surveys his opponents and more than a hint of infallibility in the lofty tones

in which he is wont to turn and address his friends. His orations are in the nature of lectures rather than speeches and there is always a touch of the sermon about them. Denizens of the lobbies of Parliament were not surprised to read that during last vacation Mr. Nicholson occupied in the absence of a clerical friend the pulpit in some Northern Ontario town. It is a safe guess that whatever the opinion of the congregation was, Mr. Nicholson himself is satisfied that they will henceforth be discontented with their regular pastor. Now people who sermonize in a Parliament invariably come to be regarded as bores and no more fatal doom can befall an aspiring politician. That great Conservative, Lord Beaconsfield, was once asked by a devout supporter to give a few words of advice to his school-boy son. When the lad was presented to him, the statesman-sage thus delivered himself "My boy, your good father has asked me to give you a few words of advice which will last you all your life. Here they are:

"Never venture an opinion as to who wrote the letters of Junius or inquire on which side of Whitehall Charles I was beheaded for then you will be considered a bore which is too terrible a thing for one of your tender years to understand."

Now Mr. Nicholson of Algoma at the end of his third session is regarded as that "too terrible a thing", a bore and generally admitted to be such by his own side. Apart from an illustrious ex-demonstrator, Mr. R. L. Richardson, he is the only member of the House to whom the press gallery have paid the compliment of intimating that they knew by heart the rich wisdom

of the speech he was about to deliver and absenting themselves en masse ere the oration had proceeded half a dozen sentences. Mr. Nicholson was naturally mortified and was moved to make personal protest in private against their incivility.

It is believed that at one time he had aspirations and dreams of a seat in the Cabinet but alas for the hopes of mortal men. Seats in the Cabinet are not for such as see their ridings captured by the enemy in provincial elections as was Mr. Nicholson's fate. So he must needs remain the lowly and devoted acolyte of the great and highminded statesmen who guide the destinies of the Unionist party. Yet there is certain measure of pity to be given to this case of arrested development. For Mr. Nicholson works hard and is more studious than the majority of his brethren. He has been heard to complain that the only sleep he obtained was snatched on railway journeys.

He has quite an elaborate knowledge of the railway problem and his lore is always at the disposal of the government to buttress their case. Last session he was made Chairman of the High Cost of Living Commission, where he behaved with great pomp and dignity. Unkind scoffers asserted he had been put there by way of insuring that he would deliver only one more speech that session. Anyhow the appointment was by way of a consolation prize, and few further honors will fall to his lot. Mr. Nicholson has succumbed to a double desire to let his voice resound down the corridors of fame and to stand well with the rich and the great of this earth, and as a result in the epoch of stern reality and fierce democracy in politics which is now looming up, he has little place in the public life of Canada.

FRANK MORRISON HERE

Secretary of A. F. of L. Arranging for 1920 Convention.

Mr. Frank Morrison, secretary for many years of the American Federation of Labor is in Montreal making investigations as to the accommodations to be secured here for the 1920 convention of the A. F. of L.

At the last convention in Atlantic City, Montreal was prominently mentioned as the next convention city, and local labor men, as well as hotel men and merchants, have been considerably interested in having the next convention here.

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## That Tariff Commission

(Continued from page 1).

Joiners of Canada No. 398, St. Catharines.

Iron Moulders Union No. 85, St. Catharines.

Local Barbers Union No. 1, St. Catharines.

Bro. of Painters and Paperhangers, St. Catharines.

Metal Polishers Inter. Union No. 97, St. Catharines.

United Bro. of Carpenters and Joiners of America, St. Catharines.

United Ass'n of Plumbers & Steam Fitters No. 244, St. Catharines.

Bricklayers and Masons and Plasterers No. 4, St. Catharines.

Iron Moulders Union of North America No. 249, Woodstock.

Inter. Bro. of Railway Stationmen No. 172, Woodstock.

Typographical Union, Woodstock.

Bricklayers, Masons, Plasterers Inter. Union No. 27, Niagara Falls.

Inter. Union Steam Operating Engineers No. 232, Niagara Falls.

Amalgamated Society of Carpenters & Joiners No. 2624, Niagara Falls.

United Bro. of Carpenters & Joiners of America No. 713 Niagara Falls.

Bro. of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen No. 487, Niagara Falls.

United Bro. of Maintenance of Way Emp. and Ry. Shop Laborers No. 83, Belleville Ont.

Inter. Ass'n of Machinists No. 779, Belleville, Ont.

Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers Inter. Union No. 30, Belleville, Ont.

Order of Ry. Conductors No. 623, Belleville, Ont.

Collingwood Barbers' Union No. 528, Collingwood.

Inter. Ass'n. of Machinists No. 627, Collingwood.

United Bro. of Carpenters & Joiners No. 1008, Collingwood.

Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders & Helpers of America No. 343, Collingwood.

Federated Ass'n of Letter Carriers No. 20, Kitchener.

Kitchener Musicians Protective Ass'n No. 226, Kitchener.

Bakers' Union No. 304, Kitchener.

Boot & Shoe Workers' Union No. 206, Kitchener.

Cigar Makers' Union No. 422, Kitchener, Ont.

Inter. Bro. of Boilermakers No. 604, Joliette, Que.

Inter. Bro. of M. of Way Employees No. 62, Brandon, Man.

Order of Ry. Conductors No. 463, Calgary.

Leather Workers Inter. Union No. 10, Calgary.

Painters & Dec. of America No. 583, Calgary.

Sheet Metal Workers No. 254, Calgary.

Calgary Fire Fighters Federal Union No. 19, Calgary.

United Bro. of M. of Way Emp. & Ry. Shop Laborers No. 161, Calgary.

Inter. Union of Brewery & Soft Drink Workers No. 124, Calgary.

Stereo. & Electrotypers No. 109, Calgary.

Hotel and Restaurant Workers No. 474, Edmonton.

Amal. Carpenters & Joiners No. 2607, Edmonton.

Bro. of Loco. Engineers No. 817, Edmonton.

Bro. Masons and Plasterers Int. Union No. 2, Moose Jaw, Sask.

Bro. of Loco. Engineers No. 832, Prince Albert, Sask.

Bro. Railway Carmen of America No. 437, Humboldt, Sask.

Book Binders Union No. 188, Edmonton, Alta.

Int. Alliance Theatrical Stage Employees No. 360, Edmonton, Alta.

United Bro. of Maintenance of Way Employees & Railway Shop Laborers No. 161, Calgary, Alta.

Int. Tailors Union of America No. 194, Calgary, Alta.

Journeymen Stone Cutters Asso. of North America, Calgary, Alta.

United Mine Workers of America No. 574, Lethbridge, Alta.

Amalga. Asso. of Street Railway No. 134, New Westminster, B.C.

Co-operation Board of Bro., Penticton, B.C.

Telephone Operators Union No. 77a, Vancouver, B.C.

Order of Railway Conductors No. 460, Nelson, B.C.

United Bro. of Carpenters & Joiners No. 524, Nelson, B.C.

Bro. of Railroad Trainmen No. 144, Vancouver, B.C.

Federal Labor Union No. 18, Moose Jaw, Sask.

Bro. of Loco. Employees, No. 818, Brandon, Man.

Steam & Operating Engineers No. 650, Brandon, Man.

Boiler Makers Lodge No. 378, Moncton, N.B.

Can. Bro. of Railroad Em-

ployees No. 42, North Sydney, N.S.

Painters, Decorators & Paper Hangers Union No. 626, Sydney, N.S.

Eddy Local No. 35, Hull, Que.

Int. Steam Engineers No. 593, Montreal, Que.

United Bro. of Carpenters & Joiners of America No. 2612, Hamilton, Ont.

Int. Alliance Theatrical Stage Employees No. 257, Ottawa, Ont.

Federated Asso. of Letter Carriers No. 22, Peterboro, Ont.

Typographical Union No. 248, Peterboro, Ont.

United Bro. of M. of Way Employees and Railway Shop Laborers, No. 495, Brantford, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Railway Stationmen No. 186, Sarnia, Ont.

Bro. of Railway Carmen of America No. 196, Windsor, Ont.

Boot & Shoe Workers Union No. 206, Kitchener, Ont.

Progress Carmen No. 22, Carleton Place, Ont.

Conference of Masons, Bricklayers, & Plasterers Int. Union Toronto, Ont.

Bro. of Blacksmiths & Helpers No. 171, Trenton, Ont.

United Bro. of M. of Way Emp. & Railway Shop Laborers No. 502, Chatham, Ont.

Int. Alliance of Machinists No. 805, Lethbridge, Alta.

Bricklayers and Masons No. 1, St. John, N.B.

Federation of Musicians, No. 566, Windsor, Ont.

Amal. Asso. of Street & Electric No. 663, St. John, N.B.

Printing Pressmen No. 176, Hamilton, Ont.

Mine, Mill & Smelters Union, Prince Rupert, B.C.

Deep Sea Fishermen's Union, Vancouver, B.C.

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Telephone City I. A. of M. No. 607, Brantford, Ont.

Bakery & C. Workers of Brantford, No. 187, Brantford, Ont.

Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers, No. 47, Ottawa, Ont.

Int. Alliance of Theatrical Stage Emp. & Moving Pictures of U.S. & Can. No. 95, Ottawa, Ont.

Int. Union Strain and Operative Emp. No. 473, Ottawa, Ont.

Journeymen, Barber Int. M. of America No. 704, Ottawa, Ont.

Int. Steel & Copper Plate Printers Union of N. A. No. 6, Ottawa, Ont.

Int. Asso. Fire Fighters, No. 162, Ottawa, Ont.

United Workers Federal Labor Union No. 56, Ottawa, Ont.

Ottawa District Council of United Bro. of Carpenters & Joiners, Ottawa, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Electric Workers, No. 724, Ottawa, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders & Helpers of America No. 394, Ottawa, Ont.

Civic Employees Federal Union No. 15, Ottawa, Ont.

Can. Bro. of Railway Employees No. 77, Ottawa, Ont.

Bro. of Carpenters No. 93, Ottawa, Ont.

United Garment Workers of America No. 278, Sarnia, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Boilermakers & Iron Shipbuilders of America, No. 539, Sarnia, Ont.

Bro. of Railroad Trainmen No. 227, Sarnia, Ont.

Journeymen, Barbers Int. Union No. 467, Sarnia, Ont.

Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers Int. Union No. 23, Sarnia, Ont.

Bro. of Railway Carmen of America No. 347, Pt. Arthur, Ont.

Bro. Locomotives Engineers No. 631, Pt. Arthur, Ont.

United Bro. of M. of Way Employees & Shop Laborers No. 172, Pt. Arthur, Ont.

United Asso. Plumbers and Steam Fitters No. 387, Pt. Arthur, Ont.

Silver Islet No. 593, Pt. Arthur, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Pulp Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers Union No. 40, Pt. Arthur, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Blacksmiths and Helpers No. 311, Fort William, Ont.

United Bro. of Maintenance of Way Emp. & Ry. Shop Laborers No. 128, Fort William, Ont.

Bro. of Railway Carmen of America No. 361, Fort William, Ont.

Amal. Asso. of Street & Electric Ry. Emp. of A. No. 698, Fort William, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Boilermakers No. 505, Fort William, Ont.

Int. Longshoremen's Coal Handlers Asso. No. 746, Fort William, Ont.

Bro. of Railway Clerks No. 605, Fort William, Ont.

Journeymen, Tailors Union of A. No. 263, Kingston, Ont.

Plumbers & Steamfitters of the United Asso. of U. S. & Can. No. 221, Kingston, Ont.

Kingston, Can. Typographical Union No. 204, Kingston, Ont.

Toronto Patternmakers Asso., Kingston, Ont.



Electricians No. 573, Kingston, Ont.

Kingston Painters & Paper Hangers No. 114, Kingston, Ont.

Carpenters & Joiners of A., Kingston, Ont.

Int. Bro. of Blacksmiths & Helpers, Kingston, Ont.

Amalgamated Society of Engineers No. 1173, Kingston, Ont.

Federal Labor Union No. 15, 959, Kingston, Ont.

Paving Cutters Union of U. S. A. & Can. No. 65, Gananoque, Ont.

Iron, Steel and Tin Workers of North America No. 4, Gananoque, Ont.

Can. Asso. Stationary Engineers No. 31, Stratford, Ont.

United Asso. of Plumbers & Steamfitters No. 742, Stratford, Ont.

Stratford Typographical Union No. 139, Stratford, Ont.

United Ass'n of Plumbers & Steam Fitters No. 488, Edmonton, Alta.

Annal. Ass'n of Street Electric Ry. Emp. of A. No. 569, Edmonton, Alta.

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Amal. Society of Carpenters and Joiners No. 2607, Edmonton, Alta.

Bro. of Railway Carmen No. 448, W. Edmonton, Alta.

Inter Ass'n of Machinists No. 559, W. Edmonton, Alta.

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Operative Plasters and Cement Finishers Inter. Ass'n No. 372, Edmonton, Alta.

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United Bro. of M. of Way Emp. No. 198, Airdrie, Alta.

United Bro. of M. of Way Emp. No. 254, Ardley, Alta.

United Bro. of M. of Way Emp. No. 256, Ecksville, Alta.

United Mine Workers of America No. 2163, Blairmore, Alta.

United Mine Workers of America No. 29, Bankhead, Alta.

Bro. of Railway Carmen of America, Comet Lodge No. 289, Lethbridge, Alta.

Plumbers and Steamfitters No. 221, Medicine Hat, Alta.

United Bro. of M. of Way Emp. No. 256, Stettler, Alta.

United Mine Workers of America No. 2655, Mountain Park, Alta.

## Charges Teachers Preach Anarchy

Judge Lafontaine Refuses to Hear Deputation From Welfare Association.

(From Gazette, Nov. 26th.)

Asserting that the teachers belonging to the Teachers' Welfare Association were preaching anarchy and paving the way to Bolshevism, Judge Lafontaine, president of the Catholic School Board, refused to hear a delegation of the association which waited on the Board at the meeting held yesterday afternoon. Not only did the president state that he did not approve of the association, but he added that, if the delegates were admitted to the board's room, he would take his hat and walk out.

Rev. Father Labelle endorsed the view of Judge Lafontaine, stating that as representative of Archbishop Bruchesi on the board, he could not hear delegates from an association that was not recognized by His Grace.

Father Brophy remarked that one year ago the teachers had interviewed the Archbishop regarding the foundation of a syndicate or union, and that they had been forbidden to start such an organization.

Commissioner Perrault thought that it was unfair to the association not to hear its delegates. First of all, they were all employees of the board and the fact that their association was not endorsed by the Archbishop could not amount to much, as it was an organization dealing with matters purely material. He claimed that as employees of the board they could be received.

Judge Lafontaine replied that the association was nothing else than a real union, and that its promoters were looking but for one thing: recognition by the board. "They wrote us at the last meeting," said the president, "and we did not acknowledge the letter, because we did not want to recognize the association. Today they seek an interview with us merely for the creation of a precedent. These teachers have formed themselves into a union, which is not compatible with their duties as public servants. They are preachers of anarchy, and it is very easy to see it. Have they not sent us a contract which they intend to impose? Do they not suggest amendments to the provincial statutes governing the schools? If we tolerate that, they pass over our heads and the board loses all authority. That is the quickest way to bolshevism. See what happened in Russia! For a quarter of a century, school teachers were allowed to preach socialism.

Mr. Perrault protested against the qualifications of the president and said: "If our teachers are anarchists; if they are teaching bolshevism and socialism, they should be dismissed at once. But I claim that they are not. They are good citizens and loyal servants. Their association represents the bulk of the teaching body and

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when they wish to interview us we should not barricade ourselves; everyone is free to approach the board and has always been. It is an innovation, and a bad one, to make an exception for our employees." Later, Mr. Perrault moved that an investigation be held to find out whether or not it was true that some teachers were socialists

or anarchists, but Judge Lafontaine ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Perrault called the vote on the Lafontaine proposition to keep out the delegation, Commissioners Lafontaine, Labelle, Brophy, Letourneau and Richard voting with the president and Mr. Perrault being the only opposition.



# Montreal Bank Clerks May Be Next to Form a Union

(Special to Canadian Railroader.)

THERE was probably no other clerical class in Canada that gave more freely of its members to the great war than the bank clerks of this country. When these men were overseas they learned a great lesson. They learned that it was organization that licked the Hun. They learned that it was because of the common purpose of the common man that the nation that hitched its ambition to the desire to dominate Europe was brought to a crushing and humiliating defeat. This they learned. Learning this they returned to their work.

On their return to their jobs they found awaiting them insignificant pay in comparison to the social position which they were supposed to occupy. Handling vast sums day after day they went to their homes at night to use their knowledge of financing to meet the demands made upon them by their position. That financing was often 'frenzied'.

The average bank clerk is a well groomed sort of chap with a rather complacent mien. But he's not contented. He's as dissatisfied under his skin as the man who shoulders a hod and gets small wages and less thanks for doing it. Learning that organization meant strength and ultimate victory the bank clerk of Montreal and of the entire country has been thinking. Thinking, he has come to a conclusion and this is the conclusion.

His conclusion is that he and his fellows must unite in an organization of some kind if he is to bring about conditions that make life possible within his realm. The man who day after day works in an office lined with marble oftentimes goes home to a room lined with broken plaster. It is he above all others who comes in contact with the kings of finance and does their bidding. He knows them — he knows their methods and he is not disposed to submit to these conditions any longer than is absolutely necessary.

"We've been talking it over", said a clerk in one of the foremost banking institutions in the city to your correspondent a day or so ago. "The more we talk it over the more we are determined to do something for ourselves and in order to achieve anything we must organize".

"How are you going to organize", I asked him.

"Well, perhaps if I told you you would think it was not strictly in accordance with the traditions of banking", he replied.

"I'm not criticizing", I replied, "I'm asking for information. How do you propose to organize?" the question was urged.

"Well I'll tell you candidly", he replied. "The only people getting what they go after these days in the

matter of wages and working conditions are the members of trade unions".

"Do you mean to say that the bank clerks are considering forming a union?" I asked.

"Absolutely", came the reply.

"It will take time to do this", he explained. "There are many prejudices against it, formed by years of practice. We have always been considered more or less the factotums of the financier. Perhaps we are. But we're not getting anything out of it. It doesn't pay to play this role. Now we're going to try the other tack".

The difficulty faced by the average bank clerk today he explained was that by reason of his connection he was supposed to move in a certain social strata. It goes with the job to a certain extent. When one becomes a bank clerk certain things are expected of you. You must learn to play bridge whist and you must attend the social functions and do your bit with the rest. The difficulty is that your salary does not permit you to do this.

In view of the demands made upon the purse of the average bank clerk in this age it is indeed an amazing thing that there are not more absconding bank clerks; not more men short in their accounts; not more men who are broken morally upon the wheel of circumstance. The system and discipline keeps them, to a large extent, for the bank clerk is human like the most of us, neither better than the best nor worse than the worst.

I talked to another bank clerk, a man whom I have known since he began to lick stamps for the collection notice envelopes. His story was the same. By diligence, honesty and trustworthiness he has reached a fairly important post in a Montreal bank but there is more glamour and glory in the job than there is money in his pay envelope. He's discontented and he believes in the union idea.

"Well, how are you going to effect this organization you speak of?" I asked him.

"Don't knock", was his reply. "We are absolutely out of touch with the type of citizen who allies himself with trade unions, so for the time being we are more or less groping in the dark. Mind you, I don't want to give you the impression that we do not know what we want. We do. We don't altogether know how to go about it to secure it".

He said that he had discussed the subject with scores of men in his own bank and in other institutions and one and all they were anxious to effect some sort of an organization that would bring them better working conditions and a better scale of wages.

"When one talks of working con-

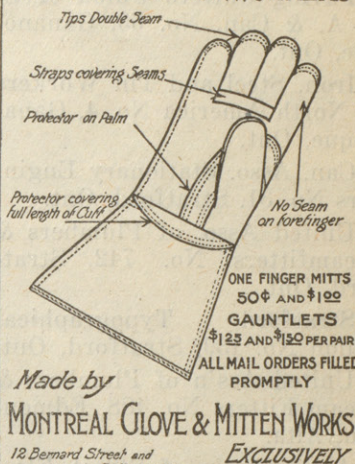
ditions and a better scale of wages", he said, "one's mind unconsciously goes immediately to the trade union. If the man who uses a saw and a trowel and all the rest of it is able to secure recognition from his boss then I don't see, for the life of me, why we are not entitled to the same sort of recognition from our superiors", was his comment.

He told me that the bank clerk of Montreal was gradually coming to the point where he realized that something should and must be done to bring about better conditions and that the only channel open at the present time, offering relief, was through the trade union medium.

There has as yet been no application to the international for a charter. It is coming. These men are bent upon a union organization and the very fact that the men who are the keenest advocates of this line of action are those who have risen to trusted and important clerical positions in the various banks of the city would seem to indicate that the movement is sound. There are some of them, I grant you, to whom I talked, who were more or less shy of the term 'trade union' but in the final analysis they admitted that it was the one and only panacea for their present ills and that they were willing to become trade unionists — call it what you will — if in doing so the means to

the end made it possible to improve conditions. The news writers of Montreal have gone into trade unionism, the railway office clerks are organized, the insurance clerks and local actors are at present organizing, and the next in line to fall in with the idea will be the bank clerks of the city if their present mental attitude on the question of working conditions and wage schedules is a fair criterion of what may transpire in the future.

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**Its Only Aim Is The Welfare of The Masses.**

The people of a nation cannot advance beyond the men who make its laws, and the Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada exists to see to it that the workers by hand and brain are directly represented in the law-making bodies of the Dominion; to find, train and elect the right men of our own class in order to secure the kind of legislation that will protect and advance the interests of the workers.

It will wage warfare on plutocracy, despotism, economic privileges, and upon all the evil forces which burden the people and rob them of that happiness of living which is their fundamental right.

It is a non-partisan educational and political association, and because of the manner in which it is organized can never become the instrument or plaything of a small group of any class, particularly of wealthy men. The aim is the attainment of true democracy.

### WE PLEDGE OURSELVES:—

To support all municipal, provincial and federal educational plans where the evident purpose is to raise the standard of education in enlightened and progressive ways; to present truthfully and fearlessly through the medium of Fifth Sunday Meetings and our own press, the "Canadian Railroader", the latest and most important political, social and industrial developments;

To advocate the abolition of property qualifications for the franchise or for election to public office; the adoption of the Initiative, Referendum and Recall, and of proportional representation in all forms of public government; universal suffrage for both sexes, on the basis of one person, one vote; the transfer of taxes from improvements, and all products of labor, to land values, incomes and inheritances;

To advocate prison reform, including introduction of the honor and segregation systems, and abolition of contract labor; the enactment and rigid enforcement of child labor laws; pensions for mothers with dependent children; regulation of immigration to prevent lowering of industrial, political or social standards; development of the postal savings and parcel post systems; financial and other assistance to farmers through co-operative banks and by other means; government development of co-operative producing and trading associations for the benefit of the consumer;

To advocate extension of workmen's housing schemes and the labor bureau system; provision of technical education for every willing worker, according to his capacities; more effective inspection of buildings, factories, workshops and mines; minimum wages; a rest period of not less than a day and a half per week for every worker; government insurance of workers against sickness, injury and death; maternity benefits and old-age pensions; better Workmen's Compensation Acts; representation of the workers on all public boards and on boards for the supervision of private enterprises; union labor conditions in all government work; adequate pensions and opportunities for soldiers and their dependents;

To advocate freedom of speech and of the press, and a law compelling all newspapers and periodicals to publish in all issues a complete list of shareholders and bondholders.

"The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada" is financed entirely by its members who contribute \$2 a year in membership fees. If a local has been established in your city \$1 remains in the local treasury and the other dollar is sent by the local organization to our Dominion Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building, Montreal, Que. In case no local has been established in your community, send the membership fee of \$2 directly to Dominion Headquarters.

The funds accumulating in the Dominion Headquarters are used for political and educational propaganda; the development of the organization; the preparation of pamphlets and leaflets and the financing of the various political campaigns where favorable opportunities develop, to elect our candidates. The treasurer is under bond and the books are audited by a firm of accountants.

An application blank will be found below. Merely fill out the application blank, buy a postal order for \$2 and send it to Dominion Headquarters. Your membership card will be forwarded by return mail. Join this great organization in the interests of education and clean politics. *Today is the day and this is the hour. Become a member now.*

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Secretary,  
The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada,  
General Headquarters, 60 Dandurand Building,  
MONTREAL, QUE.

I hereby make application for membership in "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada." I subscribe and agree to pay, while a member, the yearly fee of \$2.00 in advance.

Name.....

Amount paid \$...... Address.....

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*Make all cheques and money orders payable to "The Fifth Sunday Meeting Association of Canada."*

*Official membership card will be mailed from headquarters, with copy of platform, constitution and general rules.*



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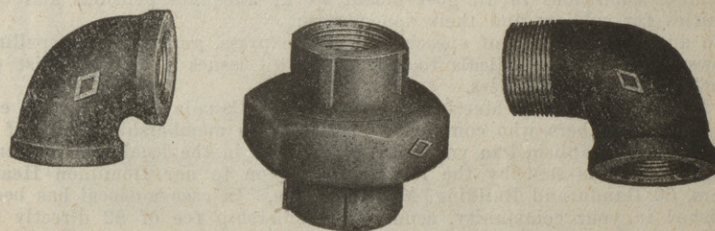
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